

PROCLAMATION

Anent Beggers. 171



WILLIAM and MARY by the Grace of GOD, King and Queen of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, To

Macers of Our Privy Council, Messengers at Arms, Our Sheriffs in part, conjunctly and severally, specially constitute, greeting, Forasmuch as the intent design of Our Proclamation, of the date the eleventh day of *August*, One thousand five hundred and ninety two years, requiring all Beggers within this Kingdom, forthwith to repair to their several Paroches with all diligence, hath been much disappointed and frustrated by the uncertainty of the Paroches where the saids respective Beggers have been born, and want of suitable Provision made by the Heretors and Magistrats of the respective Paroches where the saids Beggers have been born, or had their last seven years residence: For remedy whereof, We with Advice of the Lords of Our Privy Council, strictly Require and Command all the Beggers within this Kingdom, immediatly to repair to the several Paroches where they were Born; and where the Paroch or place of their Birth is not certain, or distinctly known, that they repair to the Paroches where they last Resided for the space of seven years together, and to keep the ordinary High ways to the several Paroches of their Birth or last seven years Residence; and so soon as they come to the said respective Paroches, to present themselves to the Heretors and Elders; and where Paroches are Vacant, and there are no Elders, to the Heretors alone; whom we, with Advice foresaid, Require and Command to make the provisions necessary for the saids Beggers, and to List their Names among the poor of the Paroch, that they may be Lodged and intertained accordingly; with Certification to all who shall be found Begging after the second *Tuesday* of *September* next, that they be seized as Vagabonds, Imprisoned, and fed on Bread and Water for a Month, or till they be sent home to the respective Paroches of their Birth, or last seven years Residence, in the manner mentioned in Our said former Proclamation. And We with Advice foresaid, Require and Command the Magistrats of Our Burghs Royal, to Meet and Stent themselves, conformable to such order and custom used and wont in laying on Stents, Annuities, or other Public Burdens in the respective Burghs, as may be most effectual to reach all the Inhabitants: And the Heretors of the several Vacant Paroches likewise to meet, and Stent themselves, for the maintainance of their said respective Poor, and to appoint the In-gathering, Uplifting, and applying of the same for the uses foresaid. Sicklike, and in the same manner, as the Heretors and Elders are appointed by Our said former Proclamation, and all the Ministers of the Heretors are hereby required to give timeous intimation to the Sheriff of the Shire, if any Paroch, or Person, shall fail in performance of this Christian duty, in haill, or in part; And the Sheriff, or Sheriff-depute, are hereby required to call the Delinquents before them, without any delay; and if guilty, to Fine them in double of the *quota* which the Minister or Heretors shall attest to be wanting, and to cause Poynd for the same immediatly. And further for preventing of any Question may arise betwixt the Heretors and Kirk-Session in the several Paroches of this Kingdom about the *quota* of the Collections at the Church Doors, or otherways to be made by the said Session, to be payed in to the Heretors, for the end of the said: We do hereby with Advice foresaid, determine the same to be the half of the Collections, and ordains the said Kirk Session to pay in the same from time to time to the Heretors, or any to be by them appointed accordingly. And We with Advice foresaid, declare and ordain Our said former Proclamation to stand in full force and vigour, in haill Heads, Points, and Articles thereof, and ordains the same to be put to execution with all diligence, in so far as the same is not hereby altered or innovat. And to the effect of Our Will and Pleasure in the Premises may be known, OUR WILL IS HEREOF, and Charge you strictly, and Command, that incontinent, these Our Letters seen, ye pass to the Mercat-Cross of *Edinburgh*, and to the Mercat-Crosses of the whole remanent Head Burghs, the several Shires and Stewartries within this Kingdom, and there in Our Name and Authority make open Proclamation of the Premises, that none may pretend ignorance, and ordains these presents to be Printed. Given under Our Signet at *Edinburgh*, the twenty first day of *August*, and of Our Reign the Fifth Year, 1693

Per Actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.